

## Minutes of April 9, 2012

The Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. All members were present.

The meeting minutes of April 2<sup>nd</sup> were accepted as amended. Mr. Davis refrained from voting.

The Board wanted the public to be aware of the FY 13 budget for the Annual Town Warrant for the school capital, if outside of 2½ % then the Town would be under the levy limit by \$52,868.48; if inside of the budget then the Town would be over the levy limit by \$44,460.00.

Joe Poindexter representing the New Marlborough Historical Society appeared before the Board requesting approval for the placement of signs in the Villages of New Marlborough and Mill River designating them as Historic Districts and for permission to have the Highway Department install the signs. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the request providing that it first get the approval of the Highway Superintendent and the Police Chief for the placement sites and that the Historical Society provide all hardware, posts, and signs.

The Board announced that it had received two bids for the exterior painting of the Town Hall, one from Northeastern Commercial Services in the amount of \$33,998.00 and one from O'Neil and Associates in the amount of \$22,500.00. After discussion a motion was made, seconded and so voted to reject both bids since they were well over estimates and to rebid the project. The bidders are to be notified of the rejection and that project is to be rebid.

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed fee schedule submitted by the Building Inspector. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the following fees to be effective June 1, 2012:

### **Construction Cost:**

From \$1,000 to \$500,000	\$25.00 for the first one thousand dollars of value, plus \$5.00 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof
Above \$500,000	\$25.00 for the first one thousand dollars of value, plus \$6.00 for each additional thousand or fraction thereof

## RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL – OTHER

Additions	\$0.40 per square ft	\$50.00 minimum
Alterations	\$0.30 per square ft	\$50.00 minimum
Decks, Porches	\$0.30 per square ft	\$50.00 minimum
Accessory Structures	\$0.30 per square ft	\$50.00 minimum
Demolition	\$0.05 per square ft	\$75.00 minimum
In-Ground Swimming Pool		\$100.00
Above-Ground Swimming Pool		\$50.00
Roofing Finishes		\$50.00
Tents		\$50.00
Signs		\$35.00
Towers		\$2.00 per ft.

The Chair reported that the Septic System Loan Account that was noticed last week as overdrawn on the expenditure report was the result of the bank miscalculating the payment amount. The error has been rectified and appropriate entries will be made to correct the account.

The Chair advised that she has not been able to contact the director of Kolburne School but will continue to call.

Selectman Yohalem read a letter from Edgar Zukauskas regarding the Town Caucus. Mr. Zukauskas expressed concerns regarding errors in the Caucus warrant date, a sticker campaign being conducted during the caucus and someone whose name was on the ballot overseeing the caucus. Katherine Chretien, Town Clerk was present and stated that once an error was noticed she called the Massachusetts Elections Division which suggested she contact Town Counsel. Town Clerk advised that she called Town Counsel and he advised that since no office was being contested on the caucus ballot, it was fine to continue with the Caucus. Ms. Chretien advised that if the Board or Constable had noticed an error then the Caucus Warrant should have been returned to be corrected before posting. Some in the audience questioned as to where the posting of warrants was done. The Board advised that Town Meeting has voted that warrants are to be posted in five or more public places within the Town to include the Transfer Station and on the Website. The Board will contact Town Counsel to see if conducting a sticker campaign is allowed during a caucus.

The Board advised that it conducted a site visit at the Southfield Bridge with Mass Highway on April 9<sup>th</sup>. It was advised that the bridge would either have to be closed or converted to one travel lane located in the middle of the bridge and that such an order would be forthcoming within 30 days. This would require the setting up of signal lights (3) and guard rails to restrict the traffic to one reversible lane of travel. It was noted that no letter has been received yet from the State but it will be coming soon. The Board will send a letter to Mr. Peter Niles, District One Director and cc's going to Department Heads, and representative Pignatelli and Senator Downing as well. It

was noted that all the Town's emergency services use that bridge during emergency calls, therefore it will be requested that they also send letters with copies to the Board. The Board reviewed and discussed the cost to fix River Road as an alternative route if the bridge should be closed.

Scott Farrell, Police Chief, requested that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss Police Department hours, gas bills and the purchase of bullet proof vests.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board a motion was made, seconded and so voted to adjourn at 7:30 PM and enter into Executive Session and not reconvene the Open Meeting. A roll call vote was taken: Tara B. White-Yes; Lawrence H. Davis, III-Yes and Nathaniel H. Yohalem-Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Skorput  
Administrative Assistant